

The James Lee House
333 Fayette Street
Bridgeton
Cumberland County, New Jersey

HABS-NJ-670

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL & DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, F.A.H.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

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The James Lee House
333 Fayette Street, Bridgeton
Cumberland County, New Jersey

Owner: Mr. Aloysius J. Fralinger, Real Estate, Rosenhaym
Avenue, Bridgeton

Date of Erection: About 1825 with additions 1853-1865

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Probably Daniel M. Woodruff, owner in and before
1853, with additions by James Lee 1853-1865

Present Condition: Original, now vacant

Number of Storeys: One and one-half over mostly unexcavated
cellar

Materials of Construction:

Foundation - Local Jersey sandstone

Exterior walls - Frame, clapboarded; with stone walled
shed

Interior walls - Lath and plaster on studding

Roof - Gable and rear lean-to, wood shingled

Chimneys - Brick

Historical Data:

The identification of this house by discovery of the names of its original and succeeding owners has been found possible by search of title in the County records.

By deed of 30 April 1853, Daniel M. Woodruff* of Bridgeton conveyed to James Lee of same place a 95 acre farm lying partly in the adjacent townships of Cohansey and Hopewell, with all and singular the buildings, improvements, etc., for \$4500.

Subsequently, by his deed of 18 March 1865, this James Lee, then residing in Deitford Township, Gloucester County, conveyed to Alfred Springer of Upper Penns Neck, Salem County, the same farm acquired in 1853 as above stated, describing it as comprised of some 95 acres in Cohansey Township, Cumberland County #.

* Cumberland County Clerk 1842-1852.

Note: City of Bridgeton formed 1864 from Townships of Bridgeton and Cohansey.

and also tracts of 3 and 9 acres in Hopewell Township, all in consideration of \$7754.60.

Springer being now of Hopewell Township, sold the three tracts to Stephen D. Kille of Bridgeton by deed of 24 March 1868, describing the first tract (then 90 acres) on which this house stood, as lying within the boundaries of the newly-formed city of Bridgeton.

From the estate of Stephen D. Kille, deceased, the farm passed by administrator's deed to Samuel M. Coombs, Jr. of Bridgeton on 10 May 1878, described as "the Lee Farm, partly in the 3rd ward of the City of Bridgeton and partly in the Township of Hopewell," 99 acres, bounded east by the road from Bridgeton to Dutch Neck.

From Samuel M. Coombs Jr. the farm passed to Samuel M. Coombs, Sr. on 15 April 1891 and he devised the residue of his property, including this farm, to the son by will dated 1st August 1906 and proved 12 March 1917. They conveyed the farm to Walter M. Goodwin of Greenwich Township, same county, by deed of 11 December 1925, but became repossessed by foreclosure proceedings against Goodwin and by sheriff's deed of 25 July 1931.

Finally, Coombs and wife conveyed the same farm to Aloysius J. Fralinger of Upper Deerfield Township by their deed of 31 December 1936, and he remains as owner at the time of our survey of the house in 1940. Mr. Fralinger is in the real estate business in Rosenhaym Avenue, Bridgeton.

Reference:

Search of title in Cumberland County land and probate records by Oscar F. Benjamin, H.A.B.S. research editor, reported 19 September 1940.

Laura D. Cook

Supervising Historian 7 April 1941

Approved:

Seymour Williams

SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, F.A.I.A.
District Officer